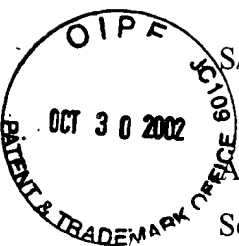


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PATENT  
10502  
M/C



S/N 09/438,676

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	BLACH ET AL.	Examiner:	G. DAWSON
Serial No.:	09/438,676	Group Art Unit:	3761
Filed:	NOVEMBER 12, 1999	Docket No.:	12460.1USC4
Title:	NASAL SUPPORT DEVICE FOR DOMESTIC MAMMALS AND METHOD		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on October 25, 2002.

By: Teresa D. Morgan  
Name: Teresa D. Morgan

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Box Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:



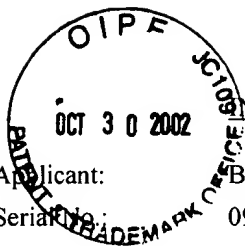
This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated July 25, 2002. In view of the following amendments and response, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 40 and 44 as follows:

sub  
40. (Once Amended) A method for reducing respiratory airflow impedance in an animal, said method comprising a step of:

- adhering a support device to a first and second lateral vestibular wall overlying a first and second nasal passage of said animal and supporting a portion of said first and second lateral vestibular walls with the support device to reduce respiratory airflow impedance in said animal.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: BLACH ET AL. Examiner: G. DAWSON  
Serial No.: 09/438,676 Group Art Unit: 3761  
Filed: NOVEMBER 12, 1999 Docket: 12460.1USC4  
Confirmation No.: 9726  
Due Date: OCTOBER 25, 2002  
Title: NASAL SUPPORT DEVICE FOR DOMESTIC MAMMALS AND METHOD

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on October 25, 2002.

By: [Signature]

Name: Teresa D. Morgan

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Amendment Including Version With Markings To Show Changes Made
- ☒ Return postcard

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300



By: [Signature]

Name: David G. Schmaltz

Reg. No.: 39,828

DSchmaltz:KAF:PSTtdm